

Niix pachwai,

My name is Kayla Godowa-Tufti, great-great grand daughter of Charlie Tufti, who is credited for Discovering what is now known as Waldo Lake in the 1800's. My family, the Tufti's of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs of Oregon, are descendants of the Chakgeenkni-Tufti Band, a band of Southern Molallish peoples that migrated seasonally to Waldo Lake and Fall Creek. This area has been our homeland for at least 8,000 years (according to archeological data). This area is rich in cultural values, history and is home to an ecosystem unlike any other on the planet. To leave this area vulnerable to foreign interference will irreversibly destroy a very fragile ecosystem forever. "Waldo Lake" is the source of the North Fork of the Willamette River, which flows through densely populated areas such as Springfield, Eugene, Salem and Portland. It is the most oligotrophic lake in the state and, as noted by Carter et al (1966), among the purest lakes in the world. Closely similar to rain water in a pristine environment. "The chemistry and biology of the water in Waldo Lake are exceptional and clearly classify the lake as ultraoligotrophic." In other words, the lake high in the mountains in a small watershed is low in plant nutrients and full of oxygen. Paddle out into its water and you can see down into the remarkably blue waters for 115 ft, when measured.

A long-term study of the lake's water shows it is home to "unique species never identified before, including phytoplankton and zooplankton and highly productive deepwater bryophytes, particularly liverworts."

The study also says the clarity of the lake is worsening.

Aside from potential fuel leakage and pollution, how do you screen a craft for invasive species if the species are in the form of microscopic or nearly microscopic seeds, eggs, bacteria or other organisms that could damage an environment that is so unique? Does the pilot or boater do the screening? Are the pilots and boaters also biologists? Are they using scientific equipment to screen or are they just looking at the plane/water craft to see if there's a zebra mussel hanging off it? Do we take their word for it that they screened their planes? If someone didn't screen their planes, would anyone know?

In regards to Senate Bill 602:

Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:

SECTION 1. ORS 830.180 is amended to read:

830.180. No person, other than the Department of State Police and governmental agencies of this state and the federal government having jurisdiction over the following described waters, shall use a motor for propelling a boat or for any purpose on the following named waters of this state located in the counties named:

Lane Gold Lake { + and Waldo Lakes + }

SECTION 2. ORS 830.185 is amended to read:

(2) No person shall operate a boat with an outboard or inboard motor at a speed in excess of 10 miles per hour on the following named waters of this state located in the counties named:

Lane Waldo Lake

From what I understand, motorized craft has been banned on "Waldo Lake" by the Oregon State Marine board as of Spring of 2012, so is this speed regulation ammendment being made for the "Department of State Police and governmental agencies of this state and the federal government having jurisdiction over the following described waters" to abide by? If the general public is not allowed motorized craft on the lake, then why should there be need to discuss speed regulations? But, if these ammendments are being made for officials to abide by, I very much appreciate this suggestion and must remind all that it is important for everyone to be mindful of the fragility of this water's ecosystem and that any foreign impact will severely alter it's pure state.

Another concern I have is at what point do officials have the authority to operate motorized crafts on the lake?

Does use of water craft by government officials come with restrictions, for emergency use only? Or anytime? Again, I cannot stress enough that **ANY FOREIGN IMPACT WILL SEVERELY ALTER THIS WATERS PURE STATE**. So, useage of the lake in this way should be extremely limited and for emergency use only.

In regards to the ammendment in Section 3, I very much concur with this ammendment, this water body is in a state of emergency concerning the preservation of public peace, health and safety.

SECTION 3. { + This 2013 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2013 Act takes effect on its passage. + }

In closing, I would like to thank all of our Molallish ancestors who's homeland is now known as "Waldo Lake". To those who took care of this place and kept it clean so that we too could know the purity and beauty of our waters, we are forever indebted and grateful. We should do the same for our children, grandchildren, and for all future

generations. Our Molallish family lived in this area for at least 8,000 years prior to industrialization and only within the last 100 years has contamination been a problem.

Thank you all so much for considering adopting this bill and doing what we can to legally protect one of the last pure water bodies on the planet that we are so privileged to have. Take care of it wisely, water is sacred.

Sincerely,

Kayla L. Godowa-Tufti, member of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs of Oregon, descendant of Indigenous peoples of Oregon, Washington, California and Nevada:

Galasq'ó, (Wasco, those that have the cup) Kiksht, Upper Chinook. Present day The Dalles, OR: Columbia River Gorge. Represented by the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs of Oregon

Yakama (Runaway) /Pa' kiut' lema (people of the gap) /Waptai'lmin (people of the narrow river) Represented by the Yakama Nation, WA Warm Springs/Walla Walla (Little River) N' chi Wana/The big river, Sahaptain: Columbia River gorge. Represented by Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs & Umatilla

Chakgeenkni-Tufti band (Molallish peoples from the Cascades: Waldo Lake and Fall Creek) Rep. by Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde. Tufti: contemporary Warm Springs family name. Traced back to Charlie Tufti, credited for "discovering" Waldo Lake

Wadadökadö and Hunipuitöka Northern Paiute from the Caves of Eastern Oregon; Represented by the Burns Paiute Tribe of Oregon. Burns, OR. The Great Basin

Atsakudökwa tuviwarai Paiute ('Those who live in the red mesas', lived in the northwest of Nevada along the Oregon-Nevada border in the Santa Rosa Mountains); Rep. by the Paiute and Shoshone of Fort McDermitt, NV; Fort McDermitt Indian Reservation

Palaihnihan (Pit River Tribe; Burney, CA) Burney Valley
Plaikni (Klamath, Móatokni [Modoc], Yahooskin/Goyatikendu, on the Sprague River; Beatty) Klamath Tribes; Klamath, Modoc, Yahooskin Snake band Paiute. Klamath Basin

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Waldo Lake, located at an elevation of 5414 feet near the crest of the Cascade Range, is one of the largest natural lakes in Oregon. Its surface area of 6298 acres is second only to Upper Klamath Lake (and Agency Lake) among natural non-alkali lakes in the state. It is also the second deepest lake in the state after Crater Lake; maximum depth is 420 feet and the mean depth is 128 feet. The total volume of water in Waldo Lake is nearly 800,000 acre-feet, and it has an extremely long retention time. However, the most outstanding feature of this lake is its ultraoligotrophic character; it is indeed one of the most oligotrophic water bodies in the world. The water is a beautiful cobalt blue color and remarkably clear. Certainly this feature has changed little since the lake was first visited by surveyors in the nineteenth century. Waldo Lake and others nearby were shown as the Virgin Lakes on an 1863 survey map, and it was also at one time known as Pengra Lake. Eventually, the lake was named for Judge John B. Waldo who sought his recreation in the Cascades.

The lake basin, estimated to be 10,000 to 12,000 years old, is a glaciated depression enclosed by end and lateral moraines. This entire section of the Cascades is dotted with lakes in depressions left by the melting of ice sheets at the end of the Pleistocene Epoch. Little surface drainage has developed in the relatively flat, youthful topography. No permanent surface streams enter Waldo Lake, although there is snowmelt runoff through countless temporary streams during spring and early summer. There is also some seepage in from springs on the lake bottom. Almost one-third of the drainage basin consists of the lake itself, and direct precipitation is a major source of water. The lake is the source of the North Fork of the Willamette River, which discharges from the northwest end, and there is another outlet to the southwest. At one time there were plans to install hydroelectric generating equipment at this second outlet, but to date it has not been done. The surrounding landscape is blanketed by a coniferous forest, predominantly Douglas fir, hemlock, and pine. Huckleberry is the principal species of understory vegetation. The thin, porous soil mantle overlies basaltic bedrock and consists of moderately weathered volcanic ash and boulders from glacial outwash. Generally, the shoreline of the lake is rocky and irregular shaped with numerous indentations. Small sandy beaches are numerous along the eastern shoreline, while the western shore has fewer beaches and is generally steeper.

Prior to 1969 Waldo Lake was accessible only by trail or four-wheel drive vehicle and the majority of users lived within a 100-mile radius. In June of that year a paved road was opened, thus linking the lake with a major highway. Campgrounds were constructed by the Forest Service on the east shoreline and plans made for an all-year recreation site. As a result of the improved access, visitor use has risen dramatically, although it is for the most part confined to the period July 15 to September 15. The Waldo Lake Recreation Area of 32,000 acres is a management unit of the Willamette National Forest, designed to protect the beautiful alpine characteristics of the lake and its surroundings. A network of trails lace the area and vehicle access is restricted. Sail boaters and canoeists find the lake appealing during the short season. Anglers commonly pack into some of the many small, high lakes nearby. Waldo Lake has a lot of kokanee, eastern brook trout and rainbow trout, although populations are small; the most productive areas are in the littoral zone where the fish feed in shallow water near shore.

Waldo Lake is thermally stratified in the summer. The surface water remains cool, 59 to 64 degrees Fahrenheit (15 to 18 degrees Celsius) and the thermocline begins at a depth of about 33 feet (10 meters). Because of the lake's considerable depth, heating extends to only about this depth; bottom water is near the temperature of maximum density, 39 degrees Fahrenheit (4 degrees Celsius) year round. The chemistry and biology of the water in Waldo Lake are exceptional and clearly classify the lake as ultraoligotrophic. It is the most oligotrophic lake in the state and, as noted by Carter et al (1966), among the purest lakes in the world. Concentrations of ions, conductivity, and alkalinity are exceptionally low, closely similar to the composition of rain water in a pristine environment. The pH of the lake is slightly acid, also characteristic of uncontaminated rain water which acquires its mild acidity from atmospheric carbon dioxide.



Source: Oregon National Guard, 1981-82. View looking north.



DRAINAGE BASIN CHARACTERISTICS

| | | | | | |
|----------------------|---------------------|--------|------------|----------|----------------|
| Area | 31 sq mi (76 sq km) | Relief | moderate | Precip. | 72 in (183 cm) |
| Land use by type (%) | Forest 69.2 | Range | Water 30.8 | Irr. Ag. | Non Irr. Ag. |
| Urban | | Other | | | |

Notes:

LAKE MORPHOMETRY

| | | | | | |
|---------------------|--------------------------|---------------|-------------------------------|----------------|---------------|
| Area | 6298 acres (2548.8 hect) | Maximum Depth | 420 ft (128 m) | Average Depth | 128 ft (39 m) |
| Ava/Max Depth Ratio | 0.31 | Volume | 787400 acre ft (970.86 cu km) | Shape Factor | 2 |
| Shoal Area | 4% | Volume Factor | 0.92 | Retention Time | 32 yr |
| Length of Shoreline | 21.7 mi (34.9 km) | | | | |

Notes:

Area determined from current air photo.

WATER QUALITY DATA

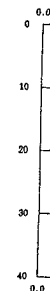
Sample near surface except as noted in Appendix A.

| | | | | | |
|-------------------|----------------|-------------------------|-----------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Sample Date | 8/18/81 | Temp. | 65.7 F (18.7 C) | pH | 6.7 |
| Transparency | 52.5 ft (16 m) | Phosp. (mg/l) | 0.001 | Chlorophyll a (ug/l) | 0.1 |
| Alkalinity (mg/l) | <0.1 | Conductivity (umhos/cm) | 4 | Diss. Oxygen (mg/l) | 8.8 |
| Major Ions (mg/l) | Na 0.2 | K 0.2 | Ca 0.7 | Mg 0.1 | Cl 0.6 |
| | | | | | SO ₄ <0.1 |
| Sample Date | 8/23/82 | Temp. | 63.5 F (17.5 C) | pH | 6.28 |
| Transparency | 65.6 ft (20 m) | Phosp. (mg/l) | 0.009 | Chlorophyll a (ug/l) | 0.1 |
| Alkalinity (mg/l) | <0.1 | Conductivity (umhos/cm) | 3.0 | Diss. Oxygen (mg/l) | - |
| Major Ions (mg/l) | Na 0.2 | K 0.0 | Ca 0.4 | Mg 0.1 | Cl 0.6 |
| | | | | | SO ₄ 0.3 |

Trophic Status: ultraoligotrophic - dramatically so

Notes:

TEM

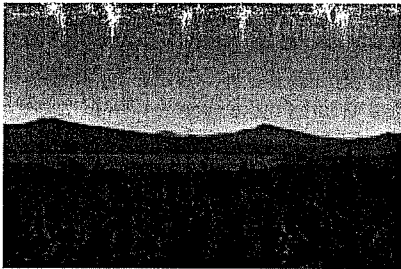


Nutrient concentrations are exceptionally low as well. Bioassay experiments conducted by Powers et al (1975) and Maloney et al (1975) indicate that phosphorus concentrations limit the growth of algae. The population densities of planktonic algae are perennially low, seldom exceeding 50 cells/ml. A few planktonic species of diatoms (*Asterionella formosa*, *Melosira* sp, *Synedra* sp) have been reported, but the commonest species observed all belong to the diatom genus *Eunotia*, a characteristically benthic or epiphytic species, and the dinoflagellate genus *Glenodinium*. Patches of aquatic moss (*Hygrohypnum*) appear at all depths. Much of the very limited primary production in the lake results from the growth of the moss and attached diatoms. Larson (1970a) measured the primary production of the plankton by the sensitive carbon-14 method, and observed some of the lowest productivities anywhere in the world (average of 29 mg C/m² during summer months); for example, this productivity is less than half the productivity observed in Crater Lake (Larson 1972a). The very pure water and lack of plankton are responsible for the exceptional transparency of the water. Larson (1970a) measured transparency at over 115 feet (35 meters) using a one-meter Secchi disk; other observers consistently report Secchi disk readings of 66 to 100 feet (20 to 30 meters) or more. At noted, natural fish growth in the lake is undoubtedly limited because of the very unproductive planktonic food chain; zooplankton are sparse. In some areas, there are noticeable populations of benthic invertebrates, primarily insect larvae, and this benthic productivity may be vitally important to the maintenance of fish populations.

- The vast majority of visitors to Waldo Lake do not use motorized boats. User surveys show that most visitors enjoy non-motorized recreation activities – from relaxing to canoeing to horseback riding.

A Victory for Pristine Waters and Wilderness Experience!The Forest Service's Environmental Assessment analyzed several alternatives. The Forest Supervisor decided to implement Alternative 4 which will:

- Restrict boat motor use on Waldo Lake to electric motors only, with exceptions for the administrative and emergency use of internal combustion motors when approved by the Forest Service.
- Prohibit floatplanes from using the surface of Waldo Lake.
- Prohibit public use of generators and chainsaws within the Dispersed Recreation, Semi-primitive Non-motorized management area (MA-10e) surrounding Waldo Lake.
- These three changes in recreation activities would be enforced 2 years after the decision is made to provide a transition period for forest visitors and managers.



Oregon Wild supports the proposal to prohibit internal combustion motors on the lake, as well as motorized equipment within the semi-primitive non-motorized area surrounding much of the lake. The ban on motors benefits lake users, water quality, and the wilderness-quality of the Waldo Lake area. **History** Native Americans inhabited the area thousands of years before white settlers arrived. Upland game, such as deer and elk, and edible plants, especially huckleberries, provided abundant food resources for the semi-nomadic bands. Various locales in the Waldo Lake area were utilized as temporary camps and food gathering sites. In historical times, it is thought that Waldo Lake was discovered by Charlie Tuff, a Molalla Indian. Its early name was "Pengra Lake," named for B.J. Pengra, a pioneer railroad enthusiast. Waldo Lake was later renamed for Judge John Breckenridge Waldo. Judge Waldo, William Gladstone Steel and other conservationists were instrumental in the creation of the Cascade Range Forest Reserve, established by President Grover Cleveland on September 28, 1893. Early settlers in the late 1800s and early 1900s found the Waldo area well suited for grazing sheep. One of the sheep driveways built later became the Irish-Taylor Road which now branches to Taylor Burn Guard Station and North Waldo. The road began as a stock trail for sheepherders who drove their bands to the high country for the summer and set fires as they left in the fall to open up more grazing on the plateau north of Waldo Lake. Waldo Lake was also a popular area for trapping fur-bearing animals. The south end of the lake was often used for winter encampments by trappers from the LaPine and Oakridge areas. Recreation use of the Waldo Area dates back to the late 1800s with the establishment of five access trails from Oakridge. By 1923, the Forest Service topographic map reveals access trails to Waldo Lake from the Skyline, Salmon Creek, Salt Creek, and Gold Lake trails. Horses and mules were the main modes of transportation. The Forest Service maintained a guard station at Waldo Meadows, and fire lookouts on Waldo, Fuji, the Twins, and Maiden Peak.



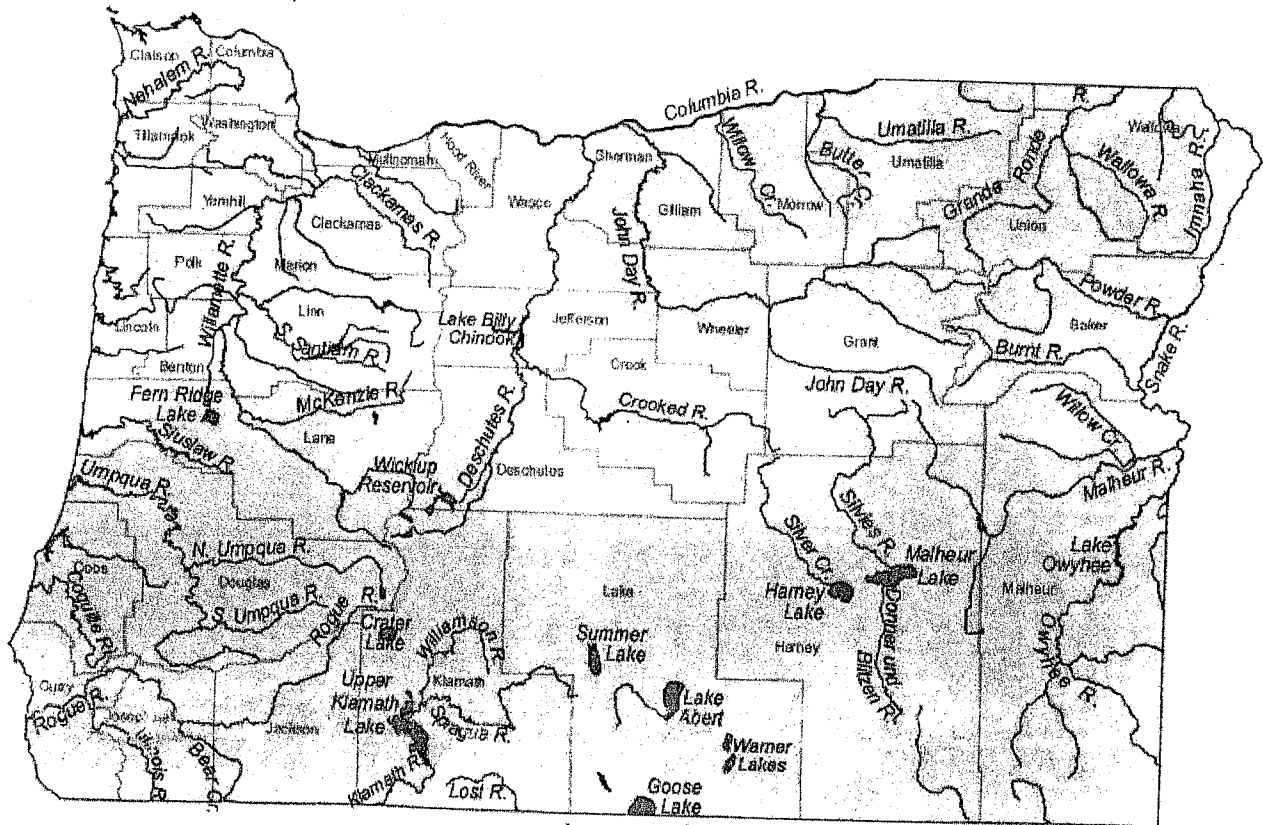
TUFTI MOUNTAIN. Charlie Tufti, a Molala Indian, was a well-known personality around Pleasant Hill during pioneer times.⁵⁶ Tufti is also a contemporary Warm Springs Reservation family name, said to go back to a man known as Molala Tufti, who came to Warm Springs before the beginning of the twentieth century and married into a local Wasco family.⁵⁷

Beulah Harden Carrothers, "Indian Lore," *Lane County Historian* 4:2 (1959): 42–44.

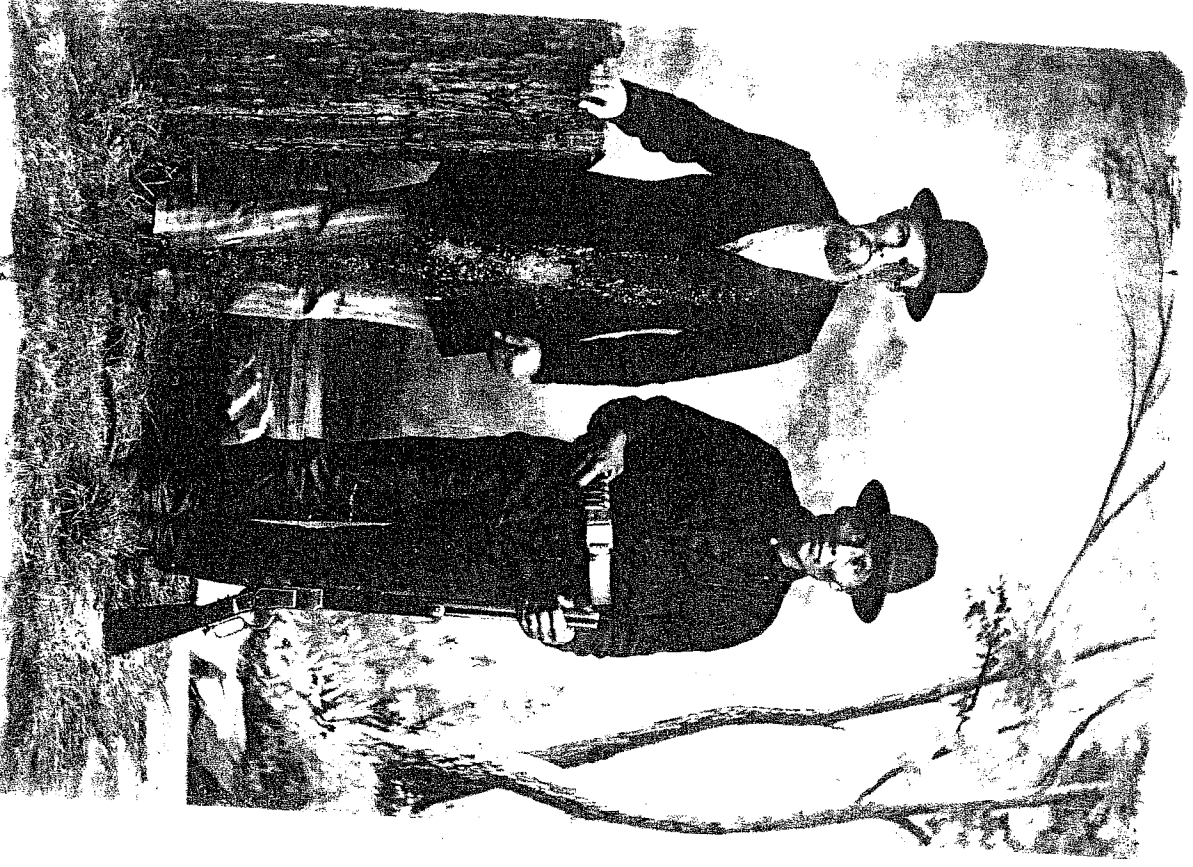
Kathrine French and Yvonne Hajda, personal communications, 1999.

CHUCKSNEY MOUNTAIN. It seems possible that this name is for the Klamath word /chakgeenkni/ 'serviceberry-area people', which was often used to refer to Molala bands roaming the Cascades to the east and southeast of Eugene. Northern Molalas sometimes referred to these bands in English as the "Eugene Molala."⁷⁸ Chucksney Mountain is in the High Cascades roughly east of Eugene.

Zenk and Rigsby, "Molala," 445.



757



Ident. #.....GN5320
 Subject.....People - ~~SEW~~ W
 Date.....unknown
 Description.....Frank Warner and his foster brother, Charley Tufti. Warner was the son of Fred and Elizabeth Young Stewart Warner, who came to Oregon with the "Lost Wagon Train of 1853" and settled in the Fall Creek area. Frank was born in 1859. Tufti was a Molalla tribe orphan, given to the Warners by his aunt when he was 6 years old in exchange for "a pan of flour and 12 pumpkins." The Warners raised Tufti and he became "Uncle Charley" to the children of Fall Creek.

Print.....copy
 Negative.....copy
 Photographer.....unknown



JOHN A. KUTZNER, MD
GOVERNOR

January 31, 2013

Mr. Mark Gardiner, Chair
Oregon State Aviation Board
3040 25th St. SE
Salem, OR 97302-1125

Dear Chair Gardiner and Members of the Aviation Board:

Thank you for your continuing service to the State of Oregon as members and as chair of the Oregon State Aviation Board. As you know, the issue of Waldo Lake and uses of it has and continues to generate public interest and controversy.

State law requires the Oregon State Marine Board and Aviation Board to cooperate with regard to policy over motorized use of state waters, and while I recognize the term cooperation does not necessarily mean cooperating entities will reach full agreement, I urge you in the strongest possible terms to adopt consistent policy regarding Waldo Lake. As volunteer board members charged with making sometimes difficult decisions concerning the public interest, I realize you are not in a comfortable position. But I firmly believe consistent policy on this issue best serves the public.

Following the Marine Board's decision last spring to prohibit motorized use on Waldo Lake with some exceptions, the Aviation Board adopted temporary rules authorizing sea plane use with certain restrictions. As I understood it, this rule was intended to help quantify the actual scope of seaplane usage prior to the Board's consideration of a permanent rule. A notice of the temporary rule went to over 750 aviation stakeholders. In response, a total of four sea plane trips occurred on Waldo Lake during the 2012 season.

I recognize that two very different arguments aimed at two very different policy outcomes could be crafted based on this fact of four sea planes using Waldo Lake during the past year's normal season of use. This dynamic sets up a classic minority / majority debate that frequently arises around public use of commonly held natural resources. On the one hand, four planes per year is not much, so why prohibit such a use if there appears to be little harm to others in perpetuating it? On the other hand, four planes is not much, so why perpetuate this use in favor of so few if it upsets the experience of the many other public users?

In my mind, the latter argument is more persuasive in this case. And I come to this conclusion not because I believe the majority of voices on a given issue should necessarily trump the minority, but because of the public resource here in question: Waldo Lake.

When the Oregon Legislature established the State Scenic Waterway system in 1983, it singled out Waldo Lake as the *only* lake in the State of Oregon that would be designated among the unique, high quality

Mr. Mark Gardiner, Chair
Oregon State Aviation Board
January 31, 2013
Page 2

waterbodies protected within this system. The legislature named numerous rivers, but Waldo Lake was the only lake. In ORS 390.815, the legislature determined that:

The people of Oregon find that many of the free-flowing rivers of Oregon and Waldo Lake and lands adjacent to such lake and rivers possess outstanding scenic, fish, wildlife, geological, botanical, historic, archaeological, and outdoor recreation values of present and future benefit to the public.

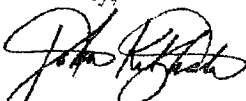
The Lake itself is designated as a Natural Area under the state scenic waterway program, meaning that it must be administered to preserve its natural, wild and primitive condition, essentially unaltered by the effects of man. Everyone who has visited Waldo Lake knows the magic of its crystal clear pristine waters, the unique absence of development along its shores, and the wild quiet that provides a refuge of peace from our hectic world. Indeed, this uniqueness and wildness is why people of diverse interests go to this place. These values are part of an Oregon treasure that no longer exists in abundance across our landscape, and I believe these values are best preserved through a prohibition of motorized use of these waters.

The Aviation Board's rules already prohibit sea plane use on any water body "*designated as a state or federal Wilderness or Primitive area or Wildlife refuge*". OAR 738-040-0018(1). The Board's rules also prohibit sea planes on waters where the Marine Board has prohibited motors. OAR 738-040-0018(2). Despite these rules and the Marine Board's earlier decision, the proposed rule before you takes Waldo Lake in an inconsistent, opposite direction. Moreover, the other relevant entities with authority over the Lake's surrounding land, waters, and public recreation thereon—including the Marine Board, Oregon Parks & Recreation Department, and U.S. Forest Service—have encouraged the Aviation Board to adopt consistent policy.

In no way do I seek to challenge sea plane use generally or imply illegitimacy of this form of transportation and recreation. The issue is the location of this use in one particular special place on Oregon's map. The Aviation Board is legally charged with exercising its powers "*** * * in all respects commensurate with and for the purpose of protecting and insuring the general public interest and safety, the safety of persons receiving instruction concerning, or operating, or using or traveling in aircraft, and of persons or property on land or water.*" ORS 835.035. While a prohibition of sea plane use may need to include some limited exceptions, I suggest there can be no doubt in this circumstance that the general public interest is in preserving the experience of non-motorized recreation on Waldo Lake.

Thank you and the other members of the Aviation Board for your careful consideration of all of the public comments received concerning this important decision. I appreciate your ongoing service.

Sincerely,


John A. Kitzhaber, M.D.
Governor

cc: Mr. Mitch Swecker, Director, Oregon Aviation Board
Mr. Scott Brewen, Director, Oregon Marine Board
Mr. Rick Allen, Chair of Marine Board



Oregon

John A. Kitzhaber, MD, Governor

Parks and Recreation Department

725 Summer St NE, Ste C

Salem, OR 97301-1266

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www.oregonstateparks.org



January 24, 2013

Mr. Mark Gardiner, Chair
Oregon Aviation Board
3040 25th St SE
Salem, OR 97302-1125

Re: Waldo Lake Rulemaking

Dear Mr. Gardiner,

As the state's agency responsible for administering Oregon's Scenic Waterways system, I would encourage you and your board to act in concert with the recent rulemaking of the Oregon Marine Board in banning internal combustion engines from use on Waldo Lake. With certain exceptions for emergencies, banning float planes will preserve the values the state legislature acknowledged when it adopted Waldo Lake into the scenic waterway system.

Waldo Lake is the only lake designated as a scenic waterway. There is reason for that distinction. It possesses a natural, pristine condition that is largely unfettered by development and provides an outdoor recreation experience unparalleled on other water bodies of the state. The noise and distraction introduced by internal combustion engines infringes upon the quiet, contemplative atmosphere and enjoyment of those seeking the peace and solitude that brings a respite to people's lives.

Without reservation, the greater public interest, both present and future, will be served by retaining Waldo Lake free of the noise and distraction caused by float plane operations on the lake and thus protecting the outstanding scenic, fish, wildlife, geological, botanical, historic, archaeological, and outdoor recreation values it possesses.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Tim Wood
Director

Cc: Mr. Richard M. Whitman, Governor's Office
Mr. Scott Brewen, Director, Oregon Marine Board
Mr. Mitch Swecker, Director, Oregon Aviation Board

RED WATERS

A Native American perspective on Waldo Lake

BY CAMILLA MORTENSEN

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Waldo Lake small group- e; they want l waters with

cle about the Lane County otors on the ke. A Google



search quickly yielded the information that the modern-day discoverer of the lake was named Charlie Tufti, a Mollala Indian. Tufti, whose nickname in Chinook jargon was Kwiskwis (“double-striped little squirrel”), is Kayla Godowa-Tufti’s great-grandfather.

Godowa-Tufti realized that she and other family members who now live on the Warm Springs Reservation are the direct descendants not only of the people who had lived around Waldo for thousands of years, but also of the man who rediscovered the lake.

Charlie Tufti, together with his white adopted brother Frank Warner, also found Salt Creek Falls. Neither natural wonder is named for the Native American who knew the land, though Tufti Mountain near Hills Creek Reservoir in the Willamette National Forest bears his name. And back in 2001, when Oregon began to get rid of offensive geographic names, Squaw Butte, east of Oakridge, became Kwiskwis Butte.

Steven Stewart has argued that he has a cultural link to the lake, and banning motorboats would deprive him of his family tradition of motorboating to picnic and to pick wild huckleberries. In legal arguments in his 2009 battle against the ban Stewart’s attorney argued that a motorboat ban would not only deprive his client of his picnics but of his huckleberries as a food supplement.

They may merely be a supplement to Stewart, but huckleberries are a sacred food source to the Warm Springs people as well as a spiritual and cultural resource.

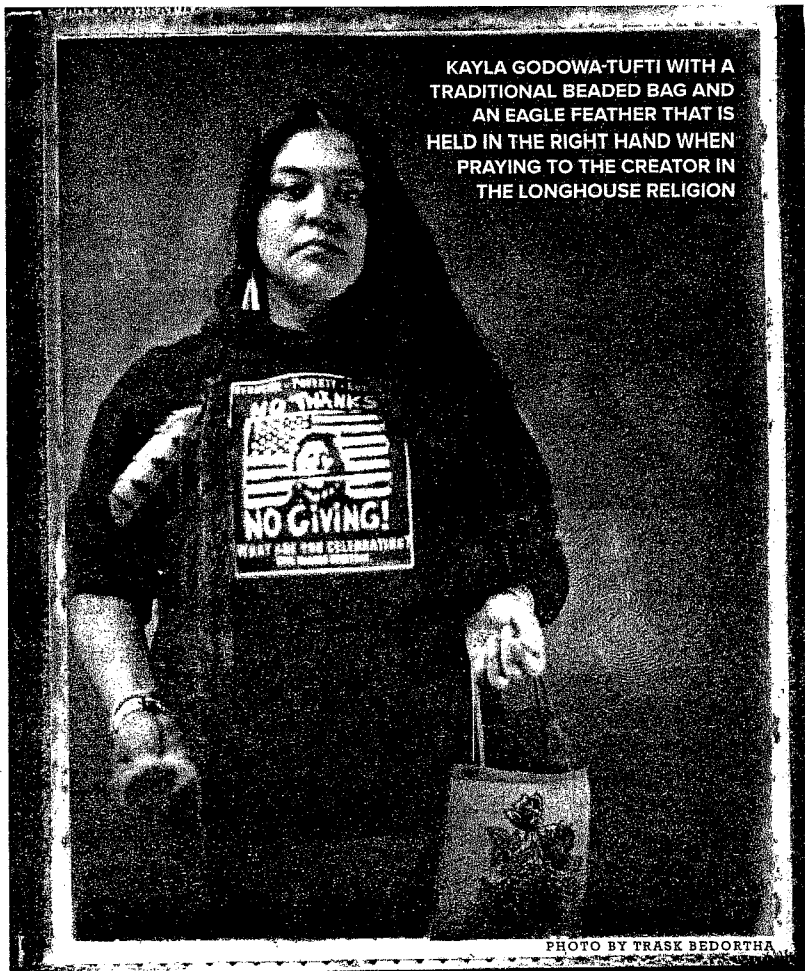
“This is not only an issue of water quality,” Godowa-Tufti says of the fight over the motor ban, but also an issue of a racist system that has allowed the Stewart family to have a sense of “entitlement,” “ownership” and to accumulate what Godowa-Tufti calls “intergenerational wealth due to white privilege.”

Godowa-Tufti, age 22, divides her time between Warm Springs in Eastern Oregon and Eugene. She is not entirely new to environmental activism. In 2010 she co-organized a Native American protest against using the Columbia River to ship megaloads of oil extracting equipment to the Canadian tar sands.

She points to a map that shows the diversity of native groups and languages that once lived throughout Oregon. Her ancestor, Charlie Tufti, was Southern Molalla, often referred to as “Eugene Molalla,” she says. The Molalla inhabited Waldo Lake, the Cascade Range and surrounding areas for more than 8,000 years, according to Godowa-Tufti.

Godowa-Tufti researched Charlie Tufti through the Lane County Historical Society. She found that he was orphaned as a child and raised by an aunt. But the whites wouldn’t let the native peoples hunt, fish and gather berries in the 1800s, and rather than let him starve, Tufti’s aunt traded him for a pan of flour and some pumpkins to the Stewart-Warners, a white family that raised him.

Tufti was an anomaly in that he was an Indian who had a homestead; in 1884 he was given legal claim to land near Oakridge. Native peoples were forbidden by the white settlers from owning land. A photo of Tufti with Warner shows him with a gun, something else forbidden to the natives by the white settlers seeking to drive the American Indians onto reservations. Stories about Tufti say he was respected for his hunting skills and generally accepted among the settlers.



KAYLA GODOWA-TUFTI WITH A TRADITIONAL BEADED BAG AND AN EAGLE FEATHER THAT IS HELD IN THE RIGHT HAND WHEN PRAYING TO THE CREATOR IN THE LONGHOUSE RELIGION

PHOTO BY TRASK BEDORTHA

But Lane County Historical documents also tell of incidents such as the time when Tufti, who kept his long braids but wore “the clothing of the white man,” went to a store in Pleasant Hill, where another man said within earshot, “thought all them varmints was supposed to be caged up on reservations ... dirty, thievin’, murderin’ skonks. Scare the women-folk clean to hell.”

The documents say Tufti was under pressure to move to the reservation, and in 1889 Tufti sold his land and later moved to the Warm Springs reservation where he served as chief.

“As much as people would like to ignore the white/Indian relations,” Godowa-Tufti says, “it is important to understand this history in order to understand where we are today.”

When the Forest Service did its environmental assessment of the effects the ban would have on Waldo Lake, it did try to take Native Americans into account. In a section labeled “Direct and Indirect Effects to Environmental Justice,” the agency discussed briefly whether “Native American/Indian rights (e.g. hunting, gathering, religious) recognized by the federal government,” would be reduced.

Godowa-Tufti doesn’t restrict her comments on Waldo to issues of social and environmental justice; she focuses on the science as well. Motorboats bring pollution into the lake’s uniquely blue waters and float planes can introduce invasive species, she says.

In the end, the Forest Service’s decision to return the lake to a “semi-primitive, non-motorized” state was not so much overturned as disregarded — the courts decided the lake was a state and not a federal issue. So the Oregon State Marine Board was next to ban the motors threatening Waldo Lake’s spectacular water.

“The chemistry and biology of the water in Waldo Lake are exceptional and clearly classify the lake as ultraoligotrophic,” Godowa-Tufti says in her written comments to the Marine Board. In other words, the lake high in the mountains in a small watershed is low in plant nutrients and full of oxygen. Paddle a canoe or kayak out into its water and you can see down into the remarkably blue waters for hundreds of feet.

A long-term study of the lake’s water shows it is home to “unique species never identified before, including phytoplankton and zooplankton and highly productive deepwater bryophytes, particularly liverworts.”

The study also says the clarity of the lake is worsening.

Godowa-Tufti says, “If we do not recognize the importance of our water and protect it, we are destroying a vital life source and a place of unexplainable beauty.” **GW**

GEM OF THE CASCADES

Pristine Waldo Lake faces renewed threats

BY TED TAYLOR

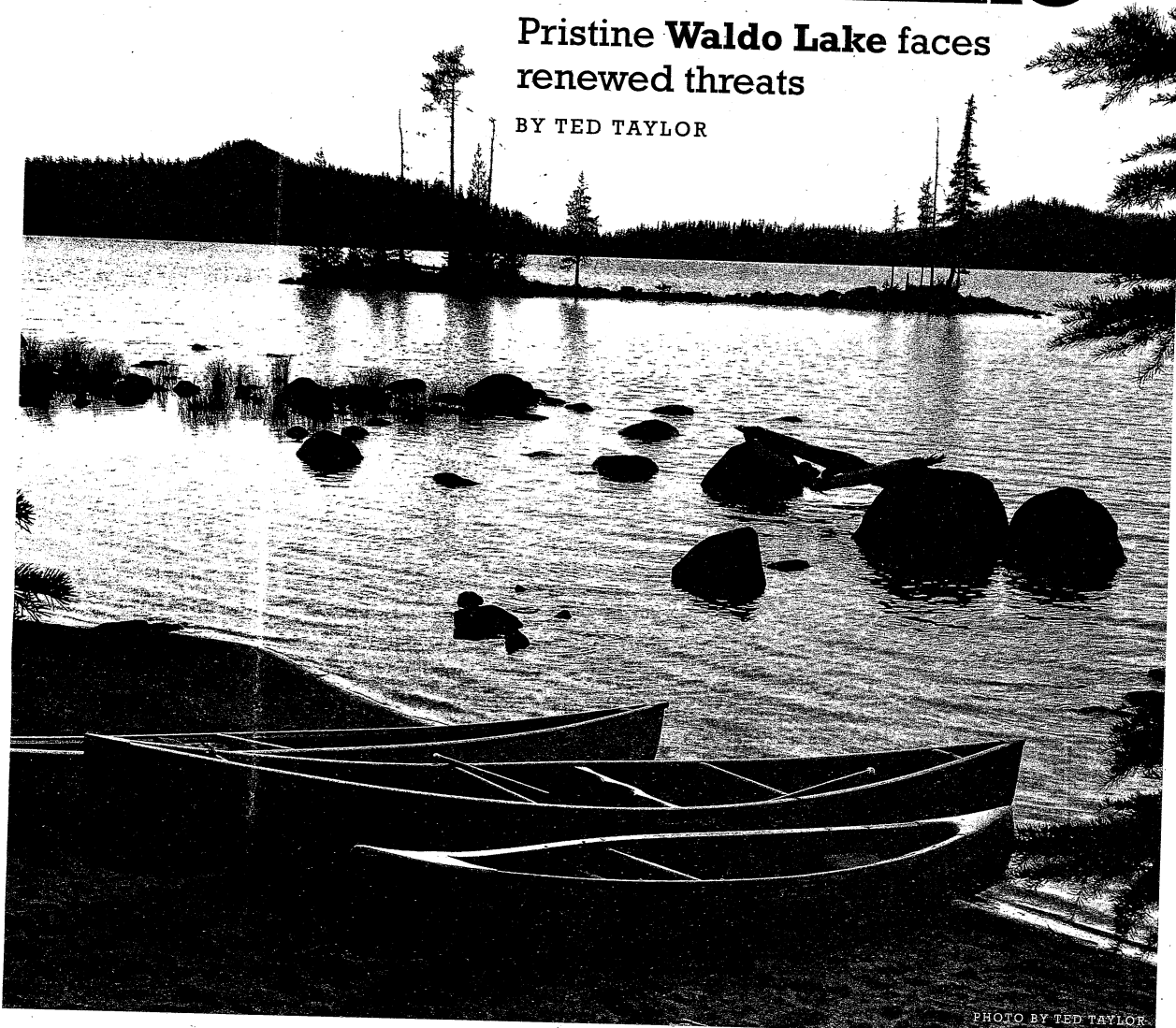


PHOTO BY TED TAYLOR

The structure of Waldo Lake has been a continuing interest of the agency

has become so controversial that the Legislature to ever expand its jurisdiction.

Currently the hotly debated issue is whether to allow motorboats on the lake. 70 miles east of Eugene, Oregon State Marine Area 1 is in Springfield (see box for comments in favor of the lake and only a few dozen miles from Eugene).

"We're strongly opposed," says David Stowe, executive director of the Juniper Group of the Oregon State Marine Area. "To tell, it's the only large lake in the Northwest and maybe the whole Northwest." The lake is in the central Cascades.

Stowe says one of the biggest threats to the lake is motorboats on the lake. "They're taking stuff to the lake, littering, the noise of the motorboats. Forest Service trail managers are managing it and they're not taking a motorboat out of the lake. I said damage from damage from damage anymore" with canoeing.

"And we certainly don't want that there," says Stowe. "The description and the argument is to hold water at all." He says the noisy float planes are a problem.

Those who have proposed the lake will need to resubmit the proposal to Oregon Wild. "It's real important this time because all the record and they need to be clear on the record."

Even though the Oregon State Marine Area is strong in favor of the lake, the rule-making session in Eugene will go either way.

"It's not clear that the Oregon State Marine Area is in favor of the lake," says former Gov. Ted Kulongoski. "Some of the Marine Area members want to try to make this happen, but it's being twisted. So there are a lot of members and we need to be clear on the record."



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